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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/811,316	03/26/2004	Robert Todd Pack	IRO-009	9659
51414 7590 03/01/2007 GOODWIN PROCTER LLP PATENT ADMINISTRATOR EXCHANGE PLACE BOSTON, MA 02109-2881			EXAMINER KIM, SANG K	
			ART UNIT 3654	PAPER NUMBER

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	03/01/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/811,316

Applicant(s)

PACK ET AL.

Examiner

SANG KIM

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 December 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 and 13-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-10 and 24 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 11, 13-23 and 25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12/18/06</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election with traverse of Group II, claims 11-23 and 25, in the reply filed on 5/3/06 is acknowledged. Applicant has elected with traverse, claims 11-23 and 25, but did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement. Since applicant has failed to provide any argument for the restriction requirement, the requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

Claims 1-10 and 24 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Applicant timely traversed the restriction (election) requirement in the reply filed on 5/3/06.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 11, 13-23 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gelfman, U.S. Patent No. 5551545.

Regarding claims 11, 23 and 25, Gelfman '545 discloses a mobile robot 2 with a chassis (e.g. frame, platform) 10, a drive system (e.g. motor), a drive system sensor 74 that monitors the drive system of the drive system of the mobile platform, column 9, lines 66-67 through column 10, lines 1-4. A cable handling system 22 secured to the

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platform and having an outlet 72 for dispensing and retrieving cable from the robot, see column 3, lines 55-62, and column 4, lines 1-60. A system controller for controlling the cable handling system, the controller determining platform velocity according to the drive system sensor, and determining a substantially zero tension cable velocity based at least in part on platform velocity and on a position of the outlet with respect to a point around which the mobile platform turns, see column 4, lines 25-60, and column 14, lines 35-45 and 56-64.

Regarding claim 13, Gelfman '545 discloses the system controller manages a plurality of cable management modes by moving the robot or winding the cable.

Regarding claims 14-15, Gelfman '545 inherently discloses a track mode and a track reverse mode by paying out the cable when the robot moves forward and vice-versa when the robot moves backward.

Regarding claims 16-17, Gelfman '545 inherently discloses a track in mode and a track out mode by reeling in the cable or paying out the cable.

Regarding claim 18, Gelfman '545 inherently discloses an error mode by preventing entanglement of the cable when retracting the cable.

Regarding claim 19, Gelfman '545 inherently discloses an idle mode by not moving the robot and placing it under the stationary mode.

Regarding claims 20-21, Gelfman '545 discloses the cable reel 22, a stowed portion, and an end portion wherein the stowed portion is wound about the cable reel and guided through the cable handling system, and the end portion is downstream of the mobile platform, see figures 1 and 5.

Regarding claim 22, Gelfman '545 discloses a fiber optic cable and a power cable, see column 1, lines 1-12.

Response to Arguments

Claim 12 has been canceled.

Claims 11, 20, 21, 23, and 25 have been amended.

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 11, 13-23 and 25 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Applicant's amendments to claims 11, 23, and 25 necessitated the new grounds of rejection as set forth above.

Applicant's arguments filed on 12/18/05, page 14, paragraph [0051], describing how the reference of White is different from applicant's amended claims are also recognized by the reference of Gelfman '545, see column 14, lines 35-45.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

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mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

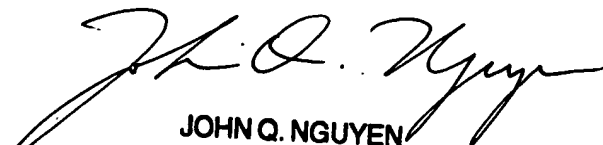
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SANG KIM whose telephone number is 571-272-6947. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 8:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. alternating Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kathy Matecki, can be reached on (571) 272-6951. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

SK

2/26/07


JOHN Q. NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER